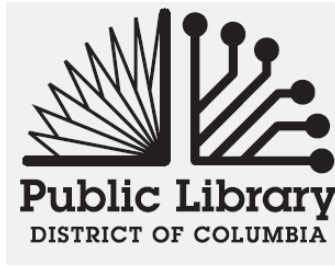


COMMUNITY LISTENING SESSION MEETING SUMMARY AND COMPILATION OF PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Meeting Date:** Wednesday November 14, 2007
6:00-8:00PM
- Location:** Watha T. Daniel/Shaw Interim Library
945 Rhode Island Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20001
- Meeting Purpose:** Community listening meeting and discussion of hopes and dreams for the new Watha T. Daniel/Shaw Library
- Meeting Format:** Presentation and interactive workshop format.
- Using adhesive dots participants were asked to identify their residence on an aerial map of the neighborhood surrounding the interim library site.
 - Display boards were used to showcase notable design and programming ideas from other libraries across the country.
 - Another set of boards displayed 18 library service response categories. Using color-coded adhesive dots meeting participants were able to identify their service priorities. Participants also provided written comments, which are presented in this summary.
 - The presentation included an overview of project implementation and a discussion of service priorities.
 - A facilitated discussion allowed participants to provide comments and ask questions of District Library staff.
- Attendees:** Fifteen community members added their names to the sign-in sheets. DCPL staff participants included Ginnie Cooper, Archie Williams, Elissa Miller, and Jeff Bonvenchio. Myrna Perlata represented the DC Library Board of Trustees. The following members of the CirclePoint consulting team attended the meeting: W. Steve Lee and Tosin Durotoye.

Following introductions, Ginnie Cooper, Chief Librarian for the District of Columbia Public Library (DCPL), introduced the project, purpose of the meeting, discussed the constraints and opportunities facing the project, and provided context for the 18 library service responses and how they were developed. The public was then given the opportunity to discuss and identify their top service priorities using the 18 existing service responses as a guide. The following were identified as the top 3 priorities (1 is the most important):



Learn to Read and Write: Adult, Teen, and Family Literacy (1)
Create Young Readers: Early Literacy (2)
Stimulate Imagination: Reading, Viewing, and Listening for Pleasure (3)

The remaining service responses are listed in order of importance as were indicated by the participants:

Connect to the Online World: Public Internet Access (4)
Succeed in School: Homework Help (4)

Know Your Community: Community Resources and Services (5)
Satisfy Curiosity: Lifelong Learning (5)

Be an Informed Citizen: Local, National, and World Affairs (6)
Celebrate Diversity: Cultural Awareness (6)
Make Career Choices: Job and Career Development (6)
Visit a Comfortable Place: Physical and Virtual Places (6)

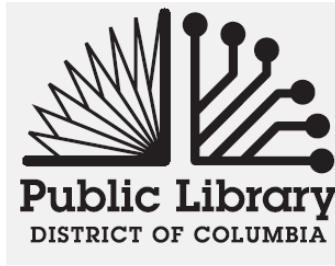
Get Facts Fast: Ready Reference (7)
Understand How to Find, Evaluate, and Use Information: Information Fluency (7)

Build Successful Enterprise: Business and Non-Profit Support (8)
Discover Your Roots: Genealogy and Local History (8)
Welcome to the United States: Services for New Immigrants (8)

Express Creativity: Cultural Awareness (9)
Make Informed Decisions: Health, Wealth, and Other Life Choices (9)

Participants were also given the opportunity to share and express other service and program priorities that were not represented in the list of 18 services. The following lists some of the additional priorities:

- Public meeting space/activity room within the library
- Reflect community history within the library
- Provide shorthand books in the library
- Need area with pay phones and lunch room
- Need area for kids to play and relax
- Monthly/weekly computer literacy classes



Compilation of Additional Comments & Questions

- The new Library should have large windows and plenty of natural light
- Will there be public art displayed around and inside the new Library?
- Would like to see an area where Library patrons can eat
- Need a conference room with phones so as to communicate with sick/shut in community residents during meetings
- Design the new Library according to green standards
- Energy costs can deplete Library budget and the DCPL should look to control these costs
- Landscaping around the new Library is critical
- Would like to see a new Library that is the same size as or larger than the old Library
- Would like to see the entrance to the new Library on 7th Street
- Consider pedestrian safety when choosing where the entrance to the new Library should be